

Fishery Conservation and Management

§ 665.167

expiration, replacement, transfer, alteration, display, sanctions, and appeals for permits for the precious coral fishery are contained in § 665.13.

§ 665.163 Prohibitions.

In addition to the general prohibitions specified in § 600.725 of this chapter and in § 665.15, it is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Use any vessel to fish for, take, retain, possess or land precious coral in any precious coral permit area, unless a permit has been issued for that vessel and area as specified in § 665.13 and that permit is on board the vessel.

(b) Fish for, take, or retain any species of American Samoa precious coral MUS in any precious coral permit area:

(1) By means of gear or methods prohibited by § 665.164.

(2) In refugia specified in § 665.161.

(3) In a bed for which the quota specified in § 665.167 has been attained.

(4) In violation of any permit issued under § 665.13 or § 665.17.

(5) In a bed that has been closed pursuant to §§ 665.166 or 665.169.

(c) Take and retain, possess, or land any live pink coral or live black coral from any precious coral permit area that is less than the minimum height specified in § 665.165 unless:

(1) A valid EFP was issued under § 665.17 for the vessel and the vessel was operating under the terms of the permit; or

(2) The coral originated outside coral beds listed in this paragraph, and this can be demonstrated through receipts of purchase, invoices, or other documentation.

§ 665.164 Gear restrictions.

Only selective gear may be used to harvest coral from any precious coral permit area.

§ 665.165 Size restrictions.

The height of a live coral specimen shall be determined by a straight line measurement taken from its base to its most distal extremity. The stem diameter of a living coral specimen shall be determined by measuring the greatest diameter of the stem at a point no less than 1 inch (2.54 cm) from the top surface of the living holdfast.

(a) Live pink coral harvested from any precious coral permit area must have attained a minimum height of 10 inches (25.4 cm).

(b) *Black coral*. Live black coral harvested from any precious coral permit area must have attained either a minimum stem diameter of 1 inch (2.54 cm), or a minimum height of 48 inches (122 cm).

§ 665.166 Closures.

(a) If the Regional Administrator determines that the harvest quota for any coral bed will be reached prior to the end of the fishing year, NMFS shall publish a notice to that effect in the FEDERAL REGISTER and shall use other means to notify permit holders. Any such notice must indicate the reason for the closure, the bed being closed, and the effective date of the closure.

(b) A closure is also effective for a permit holder upon the permit holder's actual harvest of the applicable quota.

§ 665.167 Quotas.

(a) General. The quotas limiting the amount of precious coral that may be taken in any precious coral permit area during the fishing year are listed in § 665.167(d). Only live coral is counted toward the quota. The accounting period for all quotas begins July 1, 1983.

(b) *Conditional bed closure*. A conditional bed will be closed to all non-selective coral harvesting after the quota for one species of coral has been taken.

(c) *Reserves and reserve release*. The quotas for exploratory area X-P-AS will be held in reserve for harvest by vessels of the United States in the following manner:

(1) At the start of the fishing year, the reserve for the American Samoa exploratory area will equal the quota minus the estimated domestic annual harvest for that year.

(2) As soon as practicable after December 31 each year, the Regional Administrator will determine the amount harvested by vessels of the United States between July 1 and December 31 of the year that just ended on December 31.

(3) NMFS will release to TALFF an amount of precious coral for each exploratory area equal to the quota

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minus two times the amount harvested by vessels of the United States in that July 1-December 31 period.

(4) NMFS will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notification of the Regional Administrator's determination and a summary of the information on which it is based as soon as practicable after the determination is made.

(d) The American Samoa exploratory permit area X-P-AS has an annual quota of 1,000 kg for all American Samoa precious coral MUS combined with the exception of black corals.

§ 665.168 Seasons.

The fishing year for precious coral begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 the following year.

§ 665.169 Gold coral harvest moratorium.

Fishing for, taking, or retaining any gold coral in any precious coral permit area is prohibited through June 30, 2013.

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Subpart C—Hawaii Fisheries

§ 665.198 Management area.

The Hawaii fishery management area is the EEZ seaward of the State of Hawaii, including the Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI) and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), with the inner boundary a line coterminous with the seaward boundaries of the State of Hawaii and the outer boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.

§ 665.199 Area restrictions [Reserved]

§ 665.200 Hawaii bottomfish and seamount groundfish fisheries. [Reserved]

§ 665.201 Definitions.

As used in §§ 665.200 through 665.219:
Hawaii bottomfish management unit species (Hawaii bottomfish MUS) means the following species:

Local name	English common name	Scientific name
Lehi	silver jaw jobfish	<i>Aphareus rutilans</i> .
Uku white papio, ulua au	gray jobfish	<i>Aprion virescens</i> .
kea	giant trevally	<i>Caranx ignobilis</i> .
ulua la'uli	black jack	<i>Caranx lugubris</i> .
hpu'upu'u	sea bass	<i>Epinephalus quernus</i> .
Ehuonaga, 'ula'ula	red snapper	<i>Etelis carbunculus</i> .
koa'e	longtail snapper	<i>Etelis coruscans</i> .
ta'ape	blue stripe snapper	<i>Lutjanus kasmira</i> .
kalekale	yellowtail snapper	<i>Pristipomoides auricilla</i> .
'papakapa	pink snapper	<i>Pristipomoides filamentosus</i> .
kalekale	pink snapper	<i>Pristipomoides seiboldii</i> .
gindai	snapper	<i>Pristipomoides zonatus</i> .
pig ulua, butaguchi	thicklip trevally	<i>Pseudocaranx dentex</i> .
kahala	amberjack	<i>Seriola dumerili</i> .

Hawaii restricted bottomfish species fishing year means the year beginning at 0001 HST on September 1 and ending at 2400 HST on August 31 of the next calendar year.

Main Hawaiian Islands non-commercial bottomfish permit means the permit required by § 665.203(a)(2) to own or fish from a vessel that is used in any non-commercial vessel-based fishing, landing, or transshipment of any Hawaii bottomfish MUS in the MHI Management Subarea.

Protected species study zone means the waters within 50 nm, as designated by the Regional Administrator pursuant

to § 665.208, around the following islands of the NWHI and as measured from the following coordinates:

Name	N. lat.	W. long.
Nihoa Island	23°05'	161°55'
Necker Island	23°35'	164°40'
French Frigate Shoals	23°45'	166°15'
Gardner Pinnacles	25°00'	168°00'
Maro Reef	25°25'	170°35'
Laysan Island	25°45'	171°45'
Lisianski Island	26°00'	173°55'
Pearl and Hermes Reef	27°50'	175°50'
Midway Island	28°14'	177°22'
Kure Island	28°25'	178°20'

Seamount Groundfish means the following species: